

August 2022

Hutterthal
Mennonite
Church

Connection!

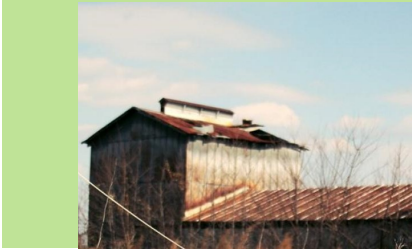
Making a CONNECTION with one another



REFLECTIONS FROM PASTOR RANDALL

Sacred Moments

While I was growing up, precious moments with my dad were sometimes hard to come by. Something always seemed to be going on, which severely limited my chances of talking or connecting with him. As I grew up, I figured out that if I actually wanted a good amount of Dad's attention, I had to join him in whatever he felt needed to be done. Sometimes that meant that I rode in the buddy seat of the tractor or combine. Sometimes that meant that we cleaned a culvert or repaired a piece of field tile. Sometimes that meant that we walked beans or repaired something on one of our pieces of equipment. Most of the time, we worked on something together so that we could have the conversation. It was that connection though, the listening and the talking, the effort and the enthusiasm, the honesty and the humility, that made those moments sacred, even though there were some times that I really didn't want to work anymore.



REFLECTIONS FROM PASTOR RANDALL CONT.

Now that I have two kids of my own, I enjoy these same sacred moments of connection, a hug or kiss or handhold or walk or run or swim or some other experience. It doesn't matter what we are doing, even if we are just sitting eating a snack. These moments are sacred, pregnant with the possibilities of transformation and new life. To some, these times might look like a waste as my kids and I wander around town with the stroller or ride around aimlessly with our bike and trailer. Maybe we air up a tire only to let the air out again or build a block tower to tear it down in the very next moment. Still other times we pick up bolts and nuts and screws and try to make sense of how these things might function in the world that we know. No matter what is happening or how we are spending our time, these moments are sacred because they are moments that we are sharing together. Can you describe the last sacred moment that you had: who you were with, what happened, and what made you realize that that moment was sacred?

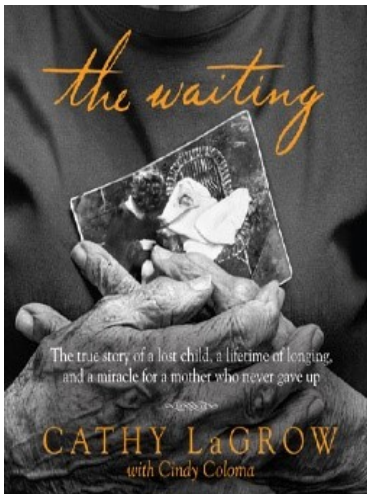


HMC LIBRARY REVIEW

Submitted by: Charlene Friesen

Recently donated to our library are 2 books sure to grab your interest. Both are true contemporary stories, the first set in southeastern SD, with names and places that may be familiar to you.

The Waiting by Cathy LaGrow



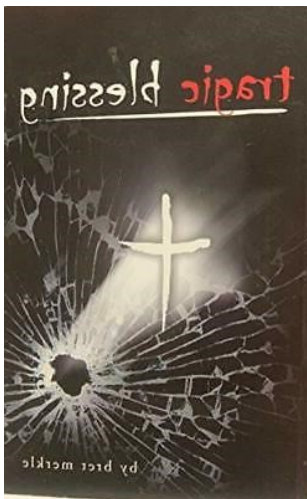
A sheltered 17 year old daughter of Dutch immigrants has little choice but to give up her child. Yet, this mother's heart longs for her daughter for seventy-six years with only a single photo as a cherished memento of the hardest thing she has ever had to do. But Minka DeYoung goes on to live each day as it comes, working diligently, loving and serving those in her life as best she can. When difficult times come, she knows her best guidance and direction comes from her faith and her God above. Then in her later years, at the age of 94 to be exact! Minka DeYoung adds a final line to her usual prayers and asks God for a favor, to see her daughter again before she dies. Told by her granddaughter, this is the story of God's answer to that mother's love.



HMC LIBRARY REVIEW CONT.

Submitted by: Charlene Friesen

Tragic Blessing by Bret Merkle



When a motorcycle accident abruptly changes life for a high-achieving athletic college student, he has to make some choices. Bret had recently accepted Jesus as his Savior. But just how real is our faith until challenged? Religion really does not play all that important a role in our lives. How can God work in our lives unless we are emptied of ourselves and the world? Sometimes God's greatest work comes through tragedy, a transformed heart. Here Bret tells of his struggle to recovery. Then goes on to share decisions he must make as he chooses a career, marries and begins a family.

This is a 'local story', since Bret attended USD in Vermillion, places and names may be familiar.



HYMN OF THE MONTH

Chosen by: Larry Tschetter
Submitted by: Suzanne Koerner

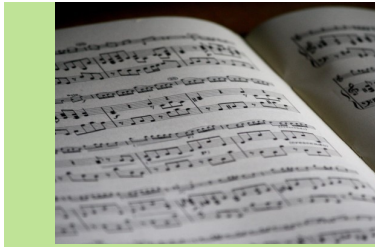
Amazing Grace

Larry Tschetter chose our hymn of the month for August. He chose it because of the personal story, and how it was written.

At the age of 47, John Newton, began the writing of a hymn that would grow increasingly more popular over the next 349 years. In his song, “Amazing Grace,” Newton writes about a grace that is immense; he writes about amazing grace, one that saved him out of his wretchedness.

Newton grew up with both his mother and father. However, his mother died while his father was away at sea. Newton’s father remarried and the couple had another child. Following in his father’s footsteps, Newton began his life’s career by searching throughout the African coast for slaves to capture and eventually to sell for profit. On one journey, Newton and his crew encountered a storm that swept some of his men overboard and left others with the likelihood of drowning. With both hands fastened onto the wheel of the boat, Newton cried out to God saying, “Lord, have mercy on us.” After eleven hours of steering, the remainder of the crew found safety with the calming of the storm. From then on, Newton dated March 21 as a day set aside for a time of humiliation, prayer, and praise.

Upon arriving safely home, Newton did not venture out to seek more slaves, instead he began to learn Hebrew and Greek. He occasionally accepted requests to speak about his conversion in front of various congregations. Newton was eventually ordained and began to lead



HYMN OF THE MONTH CONT.

his own church. God changed him from a man who was an advocate for the slave trade to a man actively working towards abolishing it. In later years, Newton began to lose his memory. Although his thoughts were limited, Newton said he could remember two things, "That I am a great sinner, and that Christ is a great Savior." With this conviction of newly found life that he found only in Christ, Newton passed from his earthly life in 1807, at the age of 82. He did live long enough to see the signing of The Act for the Abolition of the Slave Trade.

Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost, but now am found
Was blind but now I see

Was Grace that taught my heart to fear
And Grace, my fears relieved
How precious did that Grace appear
The hour I first believed

Through many dangers, toils and snares
We have already come
T'was Grace that brought us safe thus far
And Grace will lead us home
And Grace will lead us home

Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost but now am found
Was blind but now I see



NORMAN HOFER PRESENTATION

Photos Submitted by: Edie Tschetter



During Sunday School on July 17th, Norman Hofer provided a presentation on our church's connections to the present conflict in Ukraine.

YOU ARE INVITED

to the HMC annual ICE CREAM SOCIAL



Sunday, August 28, 6:30pm
Prairie Arboretum in Freeman

Bring lawn chairs and plan to enjoy the evening!



The Waltner kids spent time at Swan Lake Christian Camp this summer. Here is what they had to say about their time at Swan Lake:

Ethan – My favorite activities at camp were swimming, eating, and playing a noodle game.

Addison – My favorite activities at camp were swimming and crafts.

Isabel – My favorite activities at camp were hanging out with my friends, sessions, and swimming.

REMINDER COMMUNION OCTOBER 2ND



MCC RELIEF SALE JULY 9, 2022



Kitchen Time Savers - \$740
HMC My Coins Count - approx.
\$1,150

A big thank you to all who were
involved in some way with the
relief sale!!





CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Birthdays:

- 10) Genevieve Kramer
- 10) Jarrod Kramer
- 12) Norman Hofer
- 22) Marj Hofer
- 24) Aprille Birkey
- 25) Alyssa Hofer

Anniversaries:

- 3) Kenny & Aprille Birkey
- 6) Don & Marj Hofer
- 12) Jarrod & Bekka Kramer
- 14) Eric & Michelle Neuharth
- 18) Norman & Darlene Hofer
- 26) Donovan & Sherryl Friesen



Happy 65th
Anniversary to
Norman & Darlene
on
August 18th!



CONGREGATIONAL MINISTRIES

August Project: School Kits

Notebooks and pencils are treasures for families who struggle to afford basic school supplies. School Kits often are requested after disasters and help bring normalcy to children whose families have forced to flee their homes. 51,549 shipped last year to Ecuador, Jordan, Syria, Ukraine, and Zambia.

- 4 spiral or perforated-edges notebooks (8.5" x 10.5" and 70 sheets)
- 8 new unsharpened pencils
- 1 ruler (flat, good quality; must indicated 30cm; inch markings optional)
- 12-colored pencils (1 package)
- 1 larger eraser
- 2 new black or blue ballpoint pens
- 1 small **all metal** pencil sharpener, one or two holes.

IMPORTANT DATES COMING UP

August 7th: Child Dedications

August 14th: Backpack Blessing

August 21st: Matt Tschetter shares about Caminando Juntos (Walking Together) during Sunday School

August 28th: HMC Ice Cream Social at Arboretum

September 11th: Sunday School Kick-Off

October 2nd: Communion Sunday

Connection! Editor & Publisher: Morgan Koehler

**Advisory Board:
Chair- Marcia Schrock
Suzanne Koerner and Joline Thomas**

HMC Links

- Website - www.hmcfreeman.org
- “Like” Us on Facebook:
[www.facebook.com/ hutterthalmennonitechurch](http://www.facebook.com/hutterthalmennonitechurch)

Sept. Connection! submissions are due on **Sunday, August 29th.**
October Connection! submission are due on **Sunday, Sept. 26th.**

DATE	ATTENDANCE	INCOME
July 3	53	\$2,290.00
July 10	58	\$3,293.00
July 17	67	\$1,666.00
July 24	67	\$1,387.00
Other Giving:		\$775.00

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